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**Supplement**

# Daily Report

## MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA

*REPORTAGE ON EVENTS IN IRAN*

FBIS FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE

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FBIS DAILY REPORT

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12 MARCH DEVELOPMENTS CONCERNING U.S. RELATIONS, HOSTAGES

Qotbzadeh Radio Luxembourg Interview

NC121414 Paris AFP in English 1409 GMT 12 Mar 80 NC

[Text] Paris, March 12 (AFP)--Iranian Foreign Minister Sadeq Qotbzadeh said in a radio interview here today that his negotiations for the release of the 50 American Embassy hostages by their militant student captors were "not deadlocked". "Nothing is lost, we're getting down to work again," Mr Qotbzadeh told the radio Luxembourg commercial station here.

He said he thought those students who had at first offered to hand over the hostages to the Revolutionary Council last week appeared to be more representative of the rest than they actually turned out to be. "Anyway, the majority of the Revolutionary Council was against assuming custody of the hostages," Mr Qotbzadeh added.

He stressed that his own position towards the students had been "extremely clear and exact." "I have not gone along with a lot of things they've done," he said, adding that he would not be put off by statements the students have made.

Asked if he could suggest a date when the hostages would be freed, Mr Qotbzadeh would only say: "We'll see, we'll see."

Student Statement No 106

LD121748 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1701 GMT 12 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Statement No 106 by the Muslim student followers of the imam's policy, addressed to the Iranian students residing in the United States, was issued today. The statement partly says:

The hardships currently suffered by you, our committed and valiant brothers and sisters, outside the territory of your country are a repetiton of hardships imposed by the criminal U.S. Government and by the hand of the hangman shah on our Muslim, oppressed and valiant nation. Our nation is proud to be in confrontation with the blood-sucking United States during the renaissance of Islam and the burgeoning forth of its aims. The world of Islam and the Muslim nations are proud that the Muslim nation of Iran has made short shrift of the 2,500 year old imperial regime with the overthrow of the malevolent Pahlavi regime and that in its greater revolution today it is in confrontation with the blood-sucking United States, the mother of corruption of the century.

O true sons of Islam, with your ever mounting protests to the criminal U.S. Government convey to Waldheim--this defender of human rights--to open his eyes and witness yet another corner of the crimes of the U.S. Government, only this time perpetrated on U.S. territory against our brother and sister students.

Another part of the statement by the Muslim student followers of the imam's policy says: Be vigilant since our and your course, oh meek of the world, lies in this message by the imam: To the end of our life we will struggle against the U.S. Government and we will not rest so long as we have not put it in its place, have not cut short its hand from the region and have not helped all the fighters along the path of freedom in order to enable them to defeat the U.S. Government so that the people may control their own destiny.

UN Spokesman on Mission

JN121828 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 12 Mar 80 JN

[Text] Samir Sanbar, spokesman for the UN factfinding commission investigating the crimes of the deposed shah and the United States, today declared in a statement to the PARS NEWS AGENCY that the commission has carried out the first phase of its work successfully. He said that the commission has not met with any failure.

Sanbar said: The discussion of the persecution suffered by the Iranian people was one of the commission's main tasks. The commission's experience in this task was very sad and painful. What the commission witnessed personally could not have been obtained from any kind of document. The commission members met with the defunct regime's victims individually and heard details of their experiences. In view of the fact that the commission members are of different nationalities, the facts are found to have wider dissemination. The commission members will report their findings to the United Nations and to their countries.

Sanbar added: News agencies and the foreign press are trying hard to intimate that the commission failed in its work. The fact is, the commission accomplished a delicate part of its work and reached the point where it must hold consultations with the UN secretary general, who formed this commission.

Sanbar said: The commission's other responsibility is to reduce the tension in relations between Iran and the United States, since both are UN members. Any deterioration in relations between UN members is detrimental to the UN Charter and world peace.

Regarding the commission's work, Sanbar said: The commission members wanted to inquire about the safety of the hostages. They were able to reassure themselves that the hostages were safe.

Sanbar affirmed once again that the Iranian Government officials were most cooperative with the commission and that the commission thanked the Iranian Government for that. Sanbar added that the second phase of the commission's work has just begun, with the holding of contacts, consultations and discussions.

Sanbar said: The five members of the commission held different views. The commission must come out with one single view--hence the necessity for consultations. No doubt, the commission will return to Iran in appropriate circumstances.

Qotbzadeh on Commission's Role

JN122025 Tehran International Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 12 Mar 80 JN

[Text] Foreign Minister Sadeq Qotbzadeh made statements to journalists in which he talked about the results of the work of the international commission investigating the crimes of the deposed shah and America. He said: The U.S. Government must not imagine that the commission came to Iran to release the hostages, because the release of the hostages was not discussed with the investigation commission at all. Moreover, the statements issued made no mention at all of the idea that the release of the hostages will take place through the commission or that this subject is among its tasks.

The foreign minister said that the commission's task is to investigate the deposed shah's crimes and the plundering he and his family perpetrated, as well as to meet with the hostages. Qotbzadeh affirmed that the commission has accomplished the first and second parts, but was unsuccessful in accomplishing the third.

The Iranian foreign minister expressed the hope that the international investigation commission will shortly visit Iran once again.

Qotbzadeh Interview With Reporters

LD122200 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2100 GMT 12 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Tonight, the various committees of the Revolution Council held sessions. According to the report of the PARS NEWS AGENCY, at the end of these meetings, Sadeq Qotbzadeh said in an interview with reporters: In committee number 1, the bills concerning the administrative divisions of the country and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and a few other bills were investigated and approved.

He was asked: How hopeful are you about the result of the work of the commission of inquiry and the investigation of the crimes of the ousted shah?

He answered: First of all, we should solve our own problems and then see to other people's problems. So long as our own domestic situation is not put right and so long as there is not an understanding [among us] and so long as the powers which believe that they know one another cannot create a proper understanding among themselves, we cannot expect to have the slightest success on the international scene.

He emphasized: We should be logical, and as the imam has said, we should not try to insist on our own views in an excessive way and reject logic and reason.

Qotbzadeh added: The American Government should not think that the commission came here in order to release the hostages, because the release of the hostages was never discussed with the members of this commission, and in the statements which were made, there was no mention whatsoever about the release of the hostages through this commission. The duty of the commission was to investigate the crimes and wrongdoings of the ousted shah and his family, and to visit the hostages. The commission fulfilled the first two duties, but was not able to carry out the third.

Qotbzadeh expressed the hope that the commission of inquiry would return to Iran in the near future to continue its work.

Bani-Sadr on Commission, Students

LD121251 Paris LE MONDE in French 12 Mar 80 pp 1, 10 LD

[Eric Rouleau dispatch: "Failure of Commission of Inquiry in Iran"]

[Text] Tehran--The "Islamic students" are jubilant. In prompting the premature departure of the UN commission of inquiry they think they have thwarted the "plot" which was to lead to the normalization of relations between Iran and the United States. They are more determined than ever to hold the U.S. diplomats until the shah is extradited.

It was with anger mixed with sadness that president of the republic Bani-Sadr told us late in the evening of Monday 10 March: "Holding the hostages is no way of struggling against imperialism."

The head of state does not doubt the "students'" good faith: "They are motivated by a hatred of U.S. policy which the United States itself engendered in our country," he said in their defense. However he added: "Unfortunately they sometimes allow themselves to be influenced by some political groups favorable to the USSR, like the Tudeh Party, which stands to gain from isolating Iran on the international scene in order to prevent Afghanistan [apparent line drop]."

Bani-Sadr replied indirectly to the arguments put forward by the "students" in the past few days: "The UN commission of inquiry is completely honorable in our eyes since we approved its composition. All its members are anti-imperialists. Objecting to them is a way of cutting us off from world opinion, especially Third World opinion."

The nature of the report which the commission was to draw up at the end of its mission does not worry him. "We have provided the commission with hundreds of documents irrefutably demonstrating the guilt of the shah and of the United States. Even though the files we have given it are incomplete--due to the destruction of evidence by U.S. agents before the monarchy's fall--and even though the commission has not been given enough time, the report it was to write is vitally important for us. An indictment made against a superpower is in itself a turning point in mankind's history--the dawn of a new age for all the oppressed in the world. Unfortunately the Islamic students have failed to understand that."

The president of the republic also thinks that the occupiers of the U.S. Embassy are mistaken when they maintain that the process started by the international commission runs counter to their main objective--namely the shah's extradition. "The scenario drawn up jointly by UN Secretary General Kurt Waldheim and the Iranian Government with Imam Khomeyni's explicit approval is not in the least secret, as some people suggest. Once it has been adopted by the Security Council the commission's report will be used to demand that Panama hand over the shah for trial. We will then enjoy the support of the international community. It will also put pressure on the United States to recognize their crimes and give up their opposition to the shah's extradition.

After a moment's silence Bani-Sadr added: "By opposing the commission of inquiry the Islamic students have unintentionally proved the shah correct since right from the start he predicted that the UN mission would fail." However, the president of the republic above all attacked the "weakness" and "indecision" of the Revolution Council which he accuses of having largely contributed to the crisis.

"If the council had shown more determination, if it did not change its mind every day at the instigation of particular pressure groups, we would not have come to this pass," he said, before adding: "During our meeting Sunday evening I told my colleagues that it was impossible to govern the country in this way, that we have to have the courage to take, and above all to implement, unpopular decisions. I said that the Iranian people are sick of measures which are never carried out. I then told them that I would not go with them Monday morning to ask Imam Khomeyni to arbitrate in the conflict which had arisen between the Revolution Council and the Islamic students."

President Bani-Sadr did indeed stay away from the meetings and consultations which took place throughout Monday. He did not attend either the meeting with Imam Khomeyni or the meetings held separately by the Revolution Council and the government.

He merely agreed to receive the international commission and afterward to have a one-on-one meeting with one of its members, Mohamed Bedjaoui, Algerian ambassador to the United Nations, to whom he advocated the "proposals" put forward that morning by Imam Khomeyni. According to Bani-Sadr these proposals were "in no way contrary" to the mandate given to the UN investigators. They would have been authorized to meet all the American hostages "after expressing their opinion on the former shah's crimes and the U.S. aggressors' interference," to cite Imam Khomeyni.

Reasons for Refusal

The only concession which the commission was prepared to make--Bani-Sadr continued--would have been the following: "Before issuing a report in New York it would have announced its initial impressions in Tehran, thereby reassuring the Islamic students as to its real intentions." It is being pointed out here that two of the three measures advocated by Imam Khomeyni in his "message to the Iranian nation" were not binding on the commission. The "revolution guide" stated that the documents found in the U.S. Embassy should be "placed at the disposal" of the investigators. Therefore they had the opportunity to reject documents which some of them regard as "stolen."

The imam also stated that the commission was "free to question...some of the hostages implicated in the shah's crimes." In other words, Mr Waldheim's representatives were equally "free" to deem such interviews with men and women held in violation of international laws to be inappropriate. The only contentious point in Imam Khomeyni's message therefore related to the appropriateness of a statement by the investigators before their return to New York on the Iranian Government's grievances against the shah and the United States--an absolutely vital precondition for their visit to the American hostages.

The commission immediately stated that this distortion of the agreements was unacceptable. The pleas and exhortations of chief of Iranian diplomacy Qotbzadeh, who conferred at length with the UN representatives three times Monday, were not enough to shake their determination to leave Iran before concluding their inquiry.

Their refusal was motivated by at least two reasons. If they had agreed to "announce their initial impressions" in Tehran they would in fact have given way to Imam Khomeyni's "blackmail." And even if they had given way they would have run the risk of not being granted the other half of the bargain. Indeed, who could guarantee that the Islamic students were not going to find their condemnation of the shah and the United States to be sufficient or adequate? The commission therefore left Tehran this Tuesday morning after issuing a polite but firm communique. It will "pursue its task" in New York but will not draw up a report on the conclusions of an inquiry which it regards as incomplete. Indeed, under the terms of its mandate it is not authorized to separate Iran's grievances from the U.S. grievances over the hostages.

In good diplomatic fashion the UN investigators refrained from talking of rupture or failure. This is a wise decision since nobody has any alternative in the scenario laboriously dreamed up to satisfy both Iran and the United States. In any case President Bani-Sadr told us that the hostages could not be released until mid-May at the earliest since the future Iranian Parliament would not have the chance of examining the question before that date. Meanwhile it is the Iranian situation, rich in new developments, which will ultimately determine the fate of the hostages and the future of relations between Tehran and Washington.

ENVOY CRITICIZES U.S. 'MALTREATMENT' OF DETAINEES

LD131132 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 13 Mar 80 LD

[Text] 'Ali Asghar Agah, the temporary charge d'affaires of the Iranian Islamic Republic Embassy in Washington, speaking in an interview condemned the action of local officials in holding and maltreating Iranian students who are on hunger strike at Monroe jail. Agah added: The man who ought to be jailed is Fereydun Hoveyda who, under the guise of criticizing the deposed shah, insults the Islamic Revolution of Iran. He said: Why was it that Fereydun Hoveyda, when his brother was the Iranian prime minister under Mohammad Reza Pahlavi, was personally a propaganda agent for them instead of criticizing them? Expressing 100 percent support for the Iranian students, the embassy charge d'affaires said: The U.S. administration knows that these thieves and criminals are the puppets of Mohammad Reza Pahlavi engaged in inciting Iranian students, but it does not take any measure to stop them; on the pretext that such measures concern local authorities it allows the police to injure the students, awaken them in the middle of the night and bring them to court bound in chains. The embassy charge d'affaires warned that as long as Hoveyda and his Zionist masters continue their activity for publicizing the sale of his totally falsified book and for insulting the Islamic Revolution of Iran there will be strong protest by the Iranian students. It is the duty of officials to prevent these criminals from continuing their anti-people activities.

STUDENTS REVEAL U.S. DOCUMENTS ON COUNTERFEITING

Tehran TIMES in English 3 Mar 80 p 1 WA

[Text] Tehran--Moslem students occupying the United States Embassy yesterday released documents they said linked American diplomatic staff to an international counterfeiting ring that funneled several million dollars worth of forged currency into Iran.

The move came six days after Tehran Radio reported that a U.S. Marine, one of the 50 hostages at the embassy, had been alleged to have been involved with counterfeiters.

Yesterday documents, marked secret and confidential, were part of a series--released during the past several weeks--that allegedly show American interference in Iran's domestic affairs.

The documents as released included reports by U.S. Charge d'Affaires Bruce Laingen's meetings with an Iranian named Rasow Kazemian who had come to the embassy to volunteer information about the counterfeiting ring.

There was also a message sent by Bruce Laingen telling how people attempting to get their money out of Iran were using counterfeit bills to buy rials and then changing the rials for genuine dollars.

BANI-SADR MEETS WITH AYATOLLAH KHOMEYNI 13 MARCH

LD130841 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0830 GMT 13 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Dr Abolhasan Bani-Sadr, our country's president, held talks this morning with Imam Khomeyni, the leader of the Islamic Revolution of Iran and founder of the Iranian Islamic Republic. At this meeting, which took place at the imam's residence at 0930 and lasted half an hour, the president held talks with the imam on the latest important developments of the country. At the conclusion of the talks, the leader of the revolution issued instructions concerning provision of public welfare.

EVENTS CONCERNING MAJLES ELECTIONS REPORTED

Khomeyni Address

LD121836 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1637 GMT 12 Mar 80 LD

[Text] On the eve of the elections for the first Islamic Consultative Assembly, Imam Khomeyni, the leader of the revolution and the founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, has sent a message addressed to the struggling Iranian nation. We start this news bulletin with the message of the imam of the nation: [begin recording]

In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. At this time, when you are about to start the elections, although I have written on certain subjects and have been broadcast, as the issue is very important and as I think that I might be held responsible, in order to discharge my duties I will say a few words.

Our nation has bitter memories of the Majles at the time of Reza Shah and Mohammed Reza Pahlavi. I remember some rounds of elections even before the time of Reza Khan and I was present at some polling stations. From as far back as I can remember up till now, the National Consultative Assembly has been a meaningless term. A National Consultative Assembly means that people themselves should elect certain individuals and that they the deputies should consult among themselves and decide what is in the interest of their country. Before the time of Reza Khan, at the time of Ahmad Shah, the question of the elections was in the hands of the khans [tribal chiefs], the feudal lords and the strongmen in each district. At that time, the government did not have too much influence; but the princes who owned land and the tribal chiefs who had power and the strongmen who existed in various parts of the country forced their peasants, their people, to go to the polling stations and to do what they told them.

At the time of Reza Khan when he gained power, and at the time of Mohammad Reza, the Majles again had nothing to do with the nation. It was not a National Consultative Assembly. The first Majles should be called the Majles of tribal chiefs, and the second one should be called the imperial Majles, both the Senate and the Majles. The people had no role in it. The people saw that they could do nothing so they would sit in a corner. They saw that the people who were sent to the Majles were certain individuals who were made by them [presumably the feudal lords and the rulers] and that the interest of the country was not an issue.

Of course, there was always a lot of talking. There was always a lot of talking and praising and speaking of progress, both from the mouth of Mohammad Reza as well as those deputies he had selected. If you can find the minutes of those meetings, you will see that all the meetings were devoted to praise of Mohammad Reza and the people associated with him.

At that time [before Reza Shah], the nation had no responsibility because it had no power and was under the power of the tribal chiefs and was then under the power of these two persons, Reza and Mohammad Reza. The nation was powerless and could not even breathe. Therefore, if there was any responsibility in the sight of God and in the sight of the future generations, it would have been directed toward the tribal chiefs and their deputies at that time [before Reza Shah] and would have been directed toward Reza Khan and Mohammad Reza and their appointed deputies during the later period.

This bitter experience and the lack of principles in the elections for the Majles and such like may cause a number of people to imagine that even now things are the same as before. According to the proverb: A person who has been bitten by a snake is frightened of a spotted rope. Our nation has been bitten by snakes; it has been bitten by imperialism; it has been bitten by the feudal lords; it has been bitten by Mohammad Reza and Reza Khan. Therefore, it is possible that they may sometimes imagine that this Majles is going to be the same as the previous ones.

However, everyone should know that today no power can impose even one deputy on the people--not the president, the army, the police, or the gendarmerie, and there is nothing left of the feudal lords or of the nobles and the wealthy individuals. We do not have any more influential persons either. At the moment, there is no person and no power than can impose a single deputy. Therefore, the nation is responsible today. If the nation sits aside, if believing and committed individuals sit aside, and if those who have thought out plots against this country from the left and the right get to the Majles, all the responsibility will rest on the nation. Every step that they take against Islam will be ascribed in the book of deeds of the nation. The nation will be responsible for anything the deputies may do.

Today, the fate of Islam and the fate of the Muslims in this country and the fate of our country is in the hands of the nation. If they show any weakness or any indifference, if they do not go to vote, they will be held responsible, and this will be the case if they go to vote but are careless in their choice.

If committed, Muslim individuals--those who have a proper regard for the country and for the people of this country and those who do not wish the reins of our country's affairs to be in the hands of the left or the right--are elected, then the electorate will have acted according to its responsibility. However, if they are slack in their responsibility and if those of the left or the right succeed--those who wish to put us in the chains of the left or the right and who wish to make us captives in the hands of great powers--and you are silent, then all the responsibility for this will be upon your shoulders.

Today, all of us are entrusted with a great responsibility. To the extent that my strength permits me to talk and although I am convalesing, as I feel responsible I am talking to the nation. If the nation does not listen to my words, I shall hold you as my witness. Tomorrow [in the next life], we will be questioned in the presence of God, the almighty, the all-blessed. There, I shall claim that I told the nation what was in its interest and what was against its interest. I will say I told the nation that if the people were complacent, then those who wished to put them in chains, those who were against Islam and those who right from the start were against the Islamic Republic would succeed; and if, God forbid, they succeeded and if our nation returned to its condition of the past or if it came under the control of the left or the right, then all the responsibility would rest on your shoulders.

Today is not like the past; it is not like the period under the former regime. During the former regime, you were not able to do anything, you were powerless; but today you have the power to preserve the dignity of Islam and to preserve the interests of your country, to preserve your independence and to preserve your freedom. If you show complacency, then you are responsible in the sight of God, the almighty, the all-blessed. If you do not go and vote, and if those who are active in their attempts to get into the Majles and to disrupt the situation in Iran--if, God forbid, these people succeed--the responsibility will be yours directly. All classes will be responsible.

The Maraje' [sources of imitation or religious leaders] are responsible, the ulemas are responsible, the imams of congregations are responsible, the orators are responsible, the merchants are responsible, the tradesmen are responsible, the university people are responsible, the students in religious seminaries are responsible, the workers are responsible--all are responsible. Today, all the strata of the nation are responsible. Today is a day when all those who, right from the start, were against the Islamic Republic and those who were against Islam and who regarded Islam as being contrary to their aims have become active and are making propaganda. If the believers sit aside and if those who are committed to Islam sit aside, and if these people are against Islam come and control affairs, then it will be like the early days of the constitutional movement when the committed individuals withdrew and those who were not committed to Islam controlled everything and dragged Islam into the situation that all of you have witnessed.

If, in the early days of the constitutional movement, the ulemas had entered the field and if the believers, the committed intellectuals and the committed Muslims had entered the arena and had controlled the Majles and had not allowed others to come and control the Majles, we would not have come to our present plight. Our country would not have been ruined. Our dignity would not have been destroyed. However, the people who lived at that time used to whisper in their ears: You should not get involved in politics; this is politics and you have nothing to do with politics. They, too, believed all this.

Today also, the same thoughts may occur to some groups. They may ask: What have you got to do with such work? This work belongs to other people who will carry it out. All the people should know that everybody is responsible. All of us will be reprimanded. Tomorrow, in the presence of God, the almighty, the all-blessed, a mullah will not be excused if he does not act, nor a shopkeeper will be excused, nor a farmer, nor a university lecturer, nor a university student, nor a student of religious affairs. Workers and employers are all responsible in the sight of God, the almighty, the all-blessed. You will also be responsible in the sight of the nation and future generations. You should not imagine that such affairs have nothing to do with you. No, you are responsible for everything.

Today, it is not like previous days when you said: We were not able to do anything and we were powerless. Today, all the power is in the hands of the nation. Today, the president, chief of staff of the Armed Forces, the head of the Armed Forces, is the same as you, the same as an ordinary bazaari. He cannot impose his will upon you, nor can you impose yours upon him; neither will you submit to him. Today, all of you are responsible. Today, all of us should go to the polling stations together and should together elect committed, Muslim individuals who have no inclination toward the left or the right--those who do not wish to sell us to their side or the other side. You should elect such individuals so that your fate and the fate of Islam will be a good one.

Oh God, I have fulfilled the duty entrusted upon me although I am weak and convalescing, and I hold you as a witness that I am saying all this in order to discharge my responsibility.

I have some important things to talk about at the beginning of the new year [on 21 March] and if I am still alive, I hope to discuss those things with you.

God's peace and blessing be upon you. [end recording]

Bani-Sadr Address

LD121900 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1720 GMT 12 Mar 80 LD

[Message to the nation by Iranian President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr on the forthcoming Majles elections--recorded]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. On the eve of the nationalization of the oil industry and of the Now Ruz [new year's] festival, you brothers and sisters will go to the ballot boxes in order to elect your deputies for the first republican Majles. Our country's domestic problems are not the only issues in these elections, but rather our country's world position, too, should be an issue which you should bear in mind.

In order to justify its military attack on Afghanistan at present Russia is not resorting to legal arguments. It does not say that because of this or that legal reason or because of such and such international rules the Russian Government has attacked Afghanistan. It says that since the security of the southern borders of that country had been jeopardized "we have now gone into Afghanistan." This argument and this remark made by the head of the party and minister of defense of Soviet Russia is extremely dangerous. This means that they can do the same thing to another country and, therefore, it follows that they do what they like, whenever they deem it essential, under the pretext that the security of our southern borders is in danger, they can dispatch their forces from their borders.

We have expressed opposition with regard to events in Afghanistan but, because of our domestic problems, we have not been able to adopt an active policy--as we should and could--regarding the defense of Afghanistan's independence.

In the south or, to put it more precisely, throughout our country the traces of U.S. domination are fully intact except for that sector which was overthrown by the revolution, that is, the former shah and the ringleaders of the former regime. Our economy, our administrative apparatus and our army, organizationally and from the standpoint of armaments and other considerations, are dependent on the West, headed by the United States. If in this international situation we were to move from weakness to strength and we were to act with strength vis-a-vis the designs of these superpowers in our country and in the region, it would be essential for the internal situation in our country to change from its present state so that we could have a monolithic and united country without the multifarious decisionmaking centers and be ready to play our world role.

At present, from the domestic viewpoint, the administration of the affairs of the country is taking place under the supervision of the imam and the Revolution Council. But this Revolution Council, where we had detailed discussions last night and we plan to continue the same talks tomorrow, is beset with weaknesses which it should overcome in order to be able, in this transitional phase, to play a decisive role in the administration of the state. At present, such decisions are not made and decisiveness is not displayed, and even when a decision is made it is not carried out decisively.

When the nonimplementation of decisions brings about a state of affairs which is truly a cause for anxiety to all and sundry and which culminates in the emergence of tens of self-interested decisionmaking centers, you yourselves can imagine that if a Majles which you elect does not become a place for the unity of the people and a place for bringing about coordination between the president of the republic and the legislative power what immense problems would be piled up on top of the problems which the country is currently facing!

Therefore, your election is a destiny-making election. If the Majles to be set up does not become a place for coordination and a place of decisive struggle against these self-interested, decisionmaking centers, the Majles itself, because of its weaknesses, will become a center for a clash between these groups and these centers, and consequently it will weaken us from the domestic standpoint and will render our international position even weaker than what it is and will bring about the danger whereby the superpowers will dominate our life.

The experiences of the past year and the experiences of the time in which I have been engaged in my duties as president of the republic and president of the Revolution Council convey the fact that, with the utmost regret so long as these multifarious decisionmaking centers exist, continuous effort from morning till midnight will not bring forth any fruits; and not only problems will not move toward a solution, but rather the problems will be compounded.

In order to enable us to act with strength it is essential that these centers should be definitely destroyed. Apart from the lawful authorities, specified in the country's constitution, no group, no self-interested center should exist or be able to impose its views and demands on the country's lawful forces.

Should this Majles be endowed with sufficient strength in order to control and destroy these centers we would be saved from a disaster and even from an immense tragedy, and our country would be powerful in order to make progress both domestically and to play a worthy role in the world. But if it were to become weak it would inevitably be the responsibility of the president of the republic, by having direct recourse to the people to endeavor to remove those centers from the path of the Iranian Revolution, the Iranian Islamic Revolution.

The fourth issue which it is necessary for me to discuss at the end of this message with my compatriots, with my Muslim brothers and sisters and also with the minorities is that of the numerous approaches being made daily to me regarding the elections and the stringpullings--stringpullings by parties, improper propaganda under huge headlines, interferences by various corps, crusades, committees and other organs in the business of the elections--and of course I refer these to the legal authorities and I immediately contact the authorities controlling the administration of the elections. And if I do not acknowledge by telegram the receipt of your telegrams this is because action is immediately taken, and the powers that should carry out their supervision busy themselves doing so.

The duties of the judges which I appointed, whether in Tehran or in the provincial cities, to supervise the elections are heavy. Of course, the head of a justice department in a city, provincial town or in a province cannot supervise alone the state of affairs. He is forced to delegate this to others. I was informed by the Ministry of Justice today that the Interior Ministry has written a letter that the heads of justice departments in the various towns could supervise on a city level but could not delegate this task to their representatives. [as heard] It is axiomatic that a Justice Department head cannot personally supervise all the constituencies in a city and in rural places and, therefore, he must inevitably have representatives, and the supervision is up to the supervisor who will decide how to carry out in the best possible manner the same and he must do this.

The machineries and structures which have come into existence during the revolution more than others should be bound to uphold the law and have no right to abuse in the smallest manner the possibilities and opportunities open to them.

And should they--God forbid--do so, they should realize that sooner or later we will punish them. But the most important part of this supervision lies with the people themselves. If you, the people, believe that the forthcoming Majles should be elected by you yourselves and that those who are elected in the rural places and in the cities of the country should be in harmony with the program for which you voted with a majority of 11 million, then you yourselves should be meticulous both in electing persons and in supervising ballot boxes so that these boxes will not show anybody being elected except those for whom you have voted. And I am certain that thanks to supervision by our people, no outstanding rigging will take place in the course of these elections.

As a summary of this message once again I wish to express my firm belief in the wakeful conscience and the clear sensibilities of the people of the country, and I hope that these elections will take place in complete calm and that those people who attack groups and individuals will know that even if their prosecution does not take place immediately, they will most certainly be prosecuted, and that the outcome of these attacks will be contrary to what they expected. Our people, in this opportunity, will once again astound the world people and all will see that this Majles will reflect the unity of our people. I hope--God willing--that with the election of this Majles the new year will begin with gladness and hope, and that we will be able in the coming months to overcome the fundamental shortcomings of our affairs and steer the country along the accelerating course of work, production and, as a result, happiness and hope--by the will of God.

Montazeri on Participation

JN121433 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 12 Mar 80 JN

["Text" of address by Ayatollah Montazeri to the "struggling Iranian people"--date not given--read by announcer]

[Text] In the name of God. Honest and alert Iranian people, Muslim brothers and sisters, may God protect them: Your glorious Islamic Revolution, which has triumphed thanks to your material and moral sacrifices, thanks to the pure blood shed by those who are dear to you, thanks to His Eminence Ayatollah Khomeyni, may God lengthen his shadow, and despite the obstacles the West and the East place in front of the revolution, is now passing through a sensitive and delicate stage. This is because the defeated enemy and its agents on the inside began their conspiracies with the first moments of our victory. The principal objectives of these conspiracies are the defeat of your Islamic Revolution, the obstruction of its march and the creation of despair and pessimism in all hearts about the results of the revolution. The awareness and political maturity of our people, however, have foiled all of the conspiracies and machinations undertaken by the Western and Eastern imperialist agents. The people, whose religious faith triumphed after being tested by God and who emerged with their heads high, have also triumphed and overcome postrevolutionary problems. Now that you, the Iranian people, have passed through difficult and fruitful stages and have scored successes in four fateful elections, you are standing on the threshold of the final stage, in which you will make another decisive and categorical revolutionary decision, by which you will choose those representatives whom you consider to be worthy to send to the Islamic Consultative Council. It goes without saying that the revolution's primary and deadly enemy has not remained idle.

He is seeking to exploit every opportunity to eradicate revolutionary action and the feelings of optimism that the Muslim Iranian people are nurturing. The enemy always tries, particularly during this delicate and fateful stage, to cause some people to feel indifferent toward the elections to the Islamic Consultative Council, by rekindling and escalating sectarian strifes in order to prevent the people's effective participation in the elections. That's why the Iranian Muslim people are asked to proceed with the elections once again with the same sense of responsibility and awareness that they demonstrated in the past; to free themselves of the danger of becoming perplexed, a danger to which they can sometimes be exposed in this delicate stage; and to choose their course after consulting with faithful persons who are known for their knowledge.

After investigating the past history of the candidates and becoming acquainted with their religious positions, the extent of their faith, their political maturity and their capability to protect the continuity of the Islamic Revolution under all circumstances, the people must elect those who enjoy such qualities.

As the future of our country and of Islam depends on this stage of the elections and as any indifference to these elections will benefit the enemies of the revolution, you must seek to preserve the continuity of the liberation movement of the Islamic Revolution and to avoid dispersion and private interests by participating in the elections effectively and by electing persons who are faithful, religious and committed to the revolution.

I am confident that the alert and heroic Iranian people, who have proved that they are concerned about their destiny and about cherishing Islamic values and ethics, will reach the end of the election campaign honorably, will refrain from committing acts of sabotage that can damage honest writings and speeches and will send those who are both worthy and capable to the Islamic Consultative Council.

The brothers who are now in the election arena should step down in favor of those persons they think are more capable of offering further services to the Islamic Revolution, so that the sons of our people do not become confused as to whom they should elect. Peace be upon you.

[Signed] Hoseyn 'Ali Montazeri.

Kianuri MTI Interview

LD130940 Budapest MTI in English 0610 GMT 13 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Budapest, March 12 (MTI)--MTI's special correspondent Istvan Ambrus reports from Tehran:

Nuraddin Kianuri, first secretary of the communist Tudeh Party Central Committee, has declared that his party would field 90 candidates for the Iranian National Assembly elections beginning on Friday. Fourteen of them will contest from Tehran. Besides, in several constituencies the party is supporting the candidates of those groups whose programme is identical with the goals of the Tudeh.

In an interview given to the MTI correspondent, Nuroddin Kianuri mentioned that his party was opposed to the two-round election system as it renders hopeless the situation of average size parties incapable of acquiring absolute majority. "There are no realistic chances for any of the communist candidates to get into the legislature. The formation of a leftist electoral alliance of course would have created a different situation.

The Tudeh Party's proposal to this effect, however, received no genuine answer from the Mojahedin-e Khalq and Feda'i-ye Khalq.

The Iranian communists are unable to understand how the Revolutionary Council could decide in favour of the two-round poll system by "defying the view of its own president, many of its members and despite opposition by all parties except the Islamic Republican Party. On the top of it Bani-Sadr has interfered in the elections by setting up a coordination office between the president and electors. He is intervening in the polls also through the measures taken by this coordination office. But the president has no right to do so," said Kianuri.

Replying to a question about the expected development of Iran's foreign policy, the Tudeh leader said: "A central question of the power struggle going on even today in Iran revolves round determination of the country's foreign policy orientation. Soon after the victory of the revolution, two distinct trends emerged. Revolutionary masses want an anti-imperialist foreign policy and Khomeyni has always concurred with this aspiration. The liberal bourgeoisie and certain ruling groups, however, are striving to come to terms with imperialism and their slogans are directed against the world's most progressive section: the socialist countries. Here one can also mention the pro-American group in the leadership which is seeking to exploit every trivial pretext against the Soviet Union and socialist world and it wants to join hands with the pro-West, anti-Soviet forces of the region. In the context of the Afghan events we could see what kind of campaign these groups wished to organize, but their shallow arguments ruled out the possibility of its success.

"As such the question of outlining foreign policy has yet not been settled. These days the American Embassy was the central barricade for the struggle going on for foreign policy formulation. On one side of the barricade stood Foreign Minister Qotbzadeh, while the other side had students following the Khomeyni line."

In connection with the economic situation, Kianuri said that following the victory of revolution industrial output declined at a concerning pace due to the lack of specialists, basic materials and financial resources. The government must find a quick solution to these problems. "The Tudeh Party naturally has worked out its suggestions and programme for a solution and referred these to the Revolutionary Council. The body received the Tudeh concepts with reservations, but it can be expected that dialogue between the party and the government may influence the latter into a good direction while elaborating economic plans."

Finally in his interview given to the Hungarian news agency, the Tudeh Central Committee first secretary pointed out: "The key question of economic life is oil. The essence of Iran's oil policy is to reduce production and to raise prices. In other words, it is aimed at acquiring maximum earnings by supplying the mimimum possible oil. Another target is to step up the export of petroleum products to the detriment of crude export. Towards this the interrupted oil industrial projects should be completed and commissioned as soon as possible. The task is not simple because Iran does not have suitable technology.

"Two options emerge here: Iran should obtain the necessary technology either from imperialist or socialist world. Imperialist countries, however, will extend no technological assistance without political conditions. And this is something to which we should constantly draw the attention of the government," concluded Muroddin Kianuri.

News Media Warning

Tehran TIMES in English 3 Mar 80 p 1 WA

[Text] Tehran--The election campaign and canvassing by the candidates will remain suspended for three days starting one day before the actual polling.

Announcing this the Ministry of National Guidance urged the news media to refrain from publishing any material concerning the election campaign, or canvassing by the candidates during these three days ending March 14.

The elections of the Islamic Assembly will be held on March 13 and 14.

The ministry made it clear that it was empowered to stop the election campaign and canvassing by the candidates through the news media under Article 42 of the Islamic Constitution.

People's Mojahedin Organization Statement

Tehran TIMES in English 3 Mar 80 p 1 WA

[Text] Tehran--The Peoples' Mojahedin Organization (PMO) yesterday drew the attention of President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr to the transfers and dismissals taking place in the Ministry of Interior on the eve of the general elections and urged Bani-Sadr to stop these deliberate changes which were motivated by a particular group.

In a press release issued yesterday the PMO demanded that the president take necessary steps for preventing the security forces and particularly the revolutionary committees from interfering in the setting up of supervisory committees for the general elections.

The president should appoint the judges to keep a vigilant watch over the general elections at all stages and in the creation of supervisory bodies, the PMO said.

The PMO further added that the president and the interior minister should fulfill their legal and constitutional responsibilities in an independent manner and having full regard to the demands of the people all over the country.

In another press release the PMO urged the president to explain to the people all the facts concerning the decision taken by the Revolutionary Council on the two phased election plan.

The Peoples' Mojahedin Organization of Iran in another press release warned Iranians that "elements that were the remnants of the previous regime, imperialist agents, anti-revolutionaries and reactionaries were engaged in besmirching the reputation of the organization and turning public opinion against it on the eve of the forthcoming general elections.

The press release added that these elements were thus trying to "motivate the people" and fan the flames of hatred and turmoil in the country.

To achieve their "nefarious goals" these elements were circulating forged handbills and pamphlets in the name of the organization among the people, particularly the youth of the country, it added.

Some of these documents were forged on papers that had fallen into the hands of the reactionaries during raids on the organization's branch offices throughout the country.

The elements were trying to make people believe that raids on government offices and agencies that have so far taken place were launched by the People's Mojahedin Organization of Iran.

Meanwhile, the PMO paid glowing tributes to the great Iranian revolutionary leader Dr Mohammad Mossadeq who was the first to topple the powerful Pahlavi regime and establish a republican government in Iran.

In a message marking the death anniversary of Dr Mossadeq the PMO hoped that all hurdles in the way of the Iranian Revolution would be removed under the leadership of Imam Khomeyni in a bid to achieve a noble the noble revolutionary goals.

Editorial on Postelection Period

Tehran TIMES in English 3 Mar 80 p 2 WA

[Editorial: "Elections--Road to Good Government"]

[Text] Elections are on the minds of nearly every conscientious citizen in the country just now. If we must solidify the religious achievements of the revolution we will have to get the nation forward on an even, steady course and this can only be done through effective government machinery.

The face of the nation was transformed in the span of a few short years with great rapidity, consequent to its enrichment from oil revenues. Wealth was not always wisely used but it has changed patterns of living in a radical "modernistic" way. Cities with modern facilities and amenities have mushroomed throughout the land, industries grew and patterns of agriculture changed. Imports, exports, consumer preferences and tastes, were all related to the changes.

The entire economic structure of the country rests on a complicated network which both influences, and is influenced by such changes.

The revolution rejected a regime which stood firmly on this capitalist base and exploited both the nations wealth and people's freedoms, but the whole gigantic machine remains. However one may dislike the system it cannot be denied that it has come to stay.

It is plain fantasy to think in terms of bulldozing the old away to make for an entirely new scheme of things. What economists and politicians should aim at is modification and renewal, retaining what can be of use and discarding effete industries and organizations. It is precisely here that effective sustained action in the political sphere will count. Politics is not mere talk but should move beyond it to good government. Unless there is after the elections, a cohesive alignment of parties in agreement as to what should be done, it will be a move towards certain disaster.

Not all political parties may be in agreement as to how change have to be effected. One may call for greater socialization, or another for private incentive to take the lead, some others may want to have less or nothing to do with the West while some feel that ties cannot be severed entirely. The government can never prove effective with diverse opinions and consensus has to be reached between the major parties on future plans to be devised and carried out. Differences of a secondary order must be submerged in the greater national effort to put the nation on its rails.

The voters as an individual has a duty to select and vote for candidates whom he feels would think in these terms. In the past voting was, a desultory affair and the choice of candidates, almost routine. Today, with a number of choices offered him and a diversity of opinions the voter has a greater deal of thinking to do. The ideal, of course, would be for voters to think in terms of party and not of individuals as most voters in politically mature nations do.

Voters are likely to be swayed too, by personalities and rumor as the private lives and background of candidates. Insinuations and allegations can often be made fairly or unfairly. Who doesn't have skeletons in his cupboard, except perhaps for the saint? We do not wish to diminish the gratitude people will always retain for those who were in the forefront of the revolution, but they must be made to understand that a good revolutionary need necessarily not make a good minister, or an efficient administrator. A much wider field of experience is required for this. But one thing is needed for sure and that is honesty of motive and a total regard for the good nation and especially of its masses, the Mostazafin of the land.

Resignation of Election Committee

JN121640 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1615 GMT 12 Mar 80 JN

[Text] Tehran, 12 March--The chairman and members of the committee supervising Parliamentary elections in the northern Iranian town of Maheh have tendered their resignations, 2 days before the elections are due.

In a statement published here today, the chairman of the committee said that the members resigned because of interference in the committee's affairs and threats against committee members by irresponsible persons.

SITUATION IN KORDESTAN REPORTED, DISCUSSED

Protest Against Election Postponement

ID122010 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 12 Mar 80 ID

[Excerpt] Following the closing of shops and demonstrations by some of the people of Sanandaj, protesting against the decision of the Ministry of Interior to stop the elections in this city, the political and administrative undersecretary of the Ministry of the Interior in an interview with the reporter of the Voice and Profile of the Islamic Republic of Iran said:

As soon as the conditions are made suitable for the holding of free elections for the National Consultative Assembly in Sanandaj, the Ministry of Interior will issue the necessary instructions for holding the elections in this town.

AFP on Protest

NC121234 Paris AFP in English 1217 GMT 12 Mar 80 NC

[Text] Tehran, March 12 (AFP)--Citizens in the Iranian Kordestan provincial capital of Sanandaj today staged a general strike to protest an Interior Ministry order postponing voting there in the first round of the Iranian Parliamentary election this Friday, city governor Ata Meihami told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE.

All government offices and all shops except food shops were closed down as the population was planning a protest demonstration for later today, he said when contacted from here by telephone.

A message signed "from the people of Sanandaj" and displayed on the top of a mosque, said that if the order was not revoked the people would begin a hunger strike on Saturday, the governor added.

A spokesman of the Marxist-Leninist Feda'iye Khalq called the postponement a government attempt to keep leftist parties from winning seats in the new 270-seat assembly.

The Iranian Kordestan Democratic Party, which was not backing today's strike, reported that groups from all over Sanandaj and the surrounding villages would attend today's demonstration.

A spokesman for the Marxist-Leninist Komiteh Kurdish Nationalist Party said all social and political groups in the capital already held a protest meeting on Monday following the postponement.

The Interior Ministry announced on Sunday that it was postponing the vote because of lack of a free and calm atmosphere for voting and the presence of "armed and irresponsible elements."

This followed a newspaper report of bloody clashes at Sanandaj mosque last Friday, a report denied by all groups in the town and the governor.

Shaykh Ezzedin Hosseyni, Sunni Muslim religious leader of the Kurdish provinces, has called for President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr to intervene personally to revoke the postponement.

Kurdish Autonomy Plan

Tehran TIMES in English 3 Mar 80 p 1 WA

[Text] Tehran--A new six-point plan has been enunciated by the Kurdish Democratic Party delegation to the capital, which is fundamentally different from the earlier 26 point plan proposed by the Kurdish People's representative delegation.

The details of the plan were revealed to ETTELA'AT yesterday by Hashem Sabbaghian, a member of the government Kurdish goodwill mission.

Sabbaghian said, the plan will be studied by the government mission this week and submitted to the president, together with its comments and recommendations. The plan proposed by the KDP is an "autonomy plan" which the delegation has requested to be inserted as a supplement to the constitution, he said.

The plan has called for a demarcation of the Kurdish areas on the basis of the majorities that existed in the regions. It also proposed that the Kurdish language be recognized on par with the Persian language in all official correspondence. And it further said all education in the Kurdish regions should be imparted in Kurdish as the first language in schools and colleges. The details of the plan and their approval should have legislative sanction, the delegation said.

Sabbaghian further stated, that the plan speaks of a general amnesty and calls for compensation to be paid to the families of Kurdish martyrs, for other financial compensation for losses resulting from disturbances in the region and for prisoner exchanges.

Sabbaghian on Autonomy Plan

LD121455 Tehran BAMDAD in Persian 3 Mar 80 pp 1,3 LD

[Unattributed report: "Talks Between KDP Representative Delegation, President of the Republic and Special Delegation Concluded; Sabbaghian: 'Six-Point Autonomy Plan for Kordestan To Be Submitted to President of the Republic'"]

[Text] Hashem Sabbaghian, member of the special government delegation for the solution of the Kordestan crisis, spoke to BAMDAD last night on the subject of the negotiations between the special delegation and the KDP delegation in the following terms:

Our talks ended yesterday and at the last of our 2-hour sessions during recent days our delegation put forward a 6-point plan which differed in some respects from the 26-point plan proposed by the representative delegation.

The plan consists of three main sections: The first section contains the requirement that the plan's "autonomy" appellation be included in an appendix to the constitution. The plan also contains recognition of Kurdish alongside Persian in education and office correspondence. Elsewhere in the first part of the plan there is the suggestion that the geographical boundaries of the Kordestan region should depend on the majority vote in each region inhabited by Kurds, which is fundamentally at variance with the 26-point plan.

The second part of the plan contains such requirements as a general amnesty to those who were engaged [in conflict] in Kordestan, and includes the payment of allowances for the survivors of persons killed in incidents, and also assistance to those adversely affected by the disturbances. Special goverment delegation members had already accepted this part of the plan and had also agreed that supporters of political parties being held in prison should be exchanged for hostages being held by these political parties in Kordestan. This exchange has already taken place in two stages and we hope that the third and final exchange will be accomplished before Now Ruz [the Iranian new year, 21 March].

Of course, as regards the issue of the exchange of hostages, I told delegation leader Mr Ghani Bolurian yesterday that he was to raise the matter with the parties and political groups, including the Komiteh, so that they might release however many hostages they hold.

Speaking of the third part of the plan, Mr Sabbaghian said: the third section demands the lifting of the ban on the KDP is demanded. The special government delegation will study this plan, add its views to it, and then submit it to the president of the republic so that he can take it up with the Revolution Council for a final decision. We will communicate the views of the special delegation to the president of the republic by the end of this week.

In conclusion, Sabbaghian stressed: The rights which are to be granted to the people of Kordestan are not to be bestowed on any particular group, party or individual, but on all the people of Kordestan within the framework of the Islamic Republic, and as we said before we are prepared to present for consideration any suggestions from religious and political personages and other groups.

LAND REFORM LAW APPROVED BY REVOLUTION COUNCIL

Tehran TIMES in English 3 Mar 80 p 2 WA]

[Text] Tehran--Revolution Council has approved a land reform law to give landless peasants and agriculturalists property belonging to the state and from the large estates created under the shah's regime.

Government sources said the law was designed to increase agricultural production and make Iran self-sufficient in food, as it was before the shah's reign, according to the sources.

Local seven-member commissions, comprised mainly of village council representatives for the Ministries of Agriculture and Plan and Budget will instigate the litigation of loans.

The property to be distributed includes land belonging to the state, or taken over by the state before the Revolution and the land of the great "feudal" owners.

The "feudal" lands include fallow tracts, which will be given away. Owners of cultivated land will be allowed to keep only "the average area of a normal property of the region." The remaining portion of such land will be given away.

Land apportioned by the law cannot be sold or transferred.

NATIONALIZED INDUSTRIES TO BE STUDIED

Tehran TIMES in English 3 Mar 80 p 2 WA

[Text] Tehran--Ministry of Industry and Mines and Ministry of Labor will have a thorough study of nationalized industries in the country to find out the reasons as to why they are not being run at their full capacity.

As a first step, minister of industry and mines, Mahmud Ahmadzadeh, and minister of labor and social welfare, Mohammad Reza Nematzadeh, went to Tabriz where a number of industrial units have been nationalized and are undergoing some troubles.

East Azarbayjan governor general, Nuroddin Gharavi, welcomed the ministers and arranged their visits to these industrial plants.

The workers and other management staff were also present while the ministers visited the plants. The managers of the plants told the minister that they owed a lot of money which were debts left by the previous owners who had fled the country.

These plants, according to the managers, also have difficulties in regular supply of raw materials.

According to reports presented to the minister it was said that Nakhtab Firouzan, in pre-revolutionary era, used to be in operation for 24 hours and its production was estimated at seven tons of cotton thread per day.

But after the revolution the plant is working for only 16 hours, even then its production has increased by one ton of cotton thread every day.

A total of 320 workers are working in the plants and they are trying to manufacture spare parts through local sources.

In the same way, the report said, the working hours in Tavakoli Match and Chipboard Factory have been reduced but their capacity has been increased.

GOVERNMENT EXPROPRIATES EMPTY HOUSES FOR POOR

Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 12 Mar 80 p 2 WA

[Text] The head of the plan to buy and transfer empty houses has announced that houses belonging to various owners will become public property if the owners do not cooperate with the plan office. It was pointed out that private ownership of these houses will be transferred to public or cooperative ownership in accordance with the constitution.

This information was given to KEYHAN by Dr Mostafa Rahin, head of the plan to buy and transfer empty houses. He also noted that expropriation of empty houses and apartments was put into effect beginning yesterday afternoon and, so far, a great number of houses in all parts of the country have been possessed by "komitehs"acting under the supervision of the plan office. After the plan office appraises a fair and lawful (shariati) price for these houses they will be turned over to housing applicants to ease the housing shortage , to a certain extent, for the poor.

SEARCH FOR QOTUR HOSTAGES BEGINS IN WEST AZARBAYJAN

LD121126 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 12 Mar 80 LD

[Text] The governor general of West Azarbayjan, speaking by telephone to the Urumiyeh radio and television news unit, stressed that nonstop efforts have begun to locate the hostages of the Qotur region, who were captured 3 days ago. But, unfortunately, there has been no trace of them so far. The governor general of West Azarbayjan added: We have begun taking some action in view of this matter and apart from the presence of the forces of the army of the Islamic Republic in the region, we are trying to contact some of the influential elements in order to prevent any chaos and disorder. They way we can start taking action for the release of the hostages.

Governor general of West Azarbayjan added: While every day there is a more favorable basis for solving the problems of our Kurdish brothers, taking hostages will harm these efforts and will cause discomfort to the people of the region.

FORQAN GROUP CRITICIZES BAZARGAN GOVERNMENT

Tehran TIMES in English 3 Mar 80 p 1 WA

[Text] Tehran--Forqan group members severely criticized the Bazargan government and said that the government was not following anti-imperialist policy.

In a televised interview Saturday night eight imprisoned Forqan members said the policy of the Bazargan government forced them to join the Forqan group which is responsible for a number of political murders in the country.

The Forqan members were: Hadi Ahmadian, Mohammad Mehri, Hasan Azizi, Mohammad Hosein bin-Hindi, Ali Hatami, Amrollah Ilahi, Mahmud Kashai and Mohammad Mottahedi. Amrollah Ilahi said that the German employee who was assassinated in Tehran was killed because he was a military adviser of the U.S. Hans Joachim Leib, chief accountant in Merck Inc., a pharmaceutal company, was killed last October 14 while he was leaving his house in north Tehran. The Forqan group later claimed responsibility for the murder.

Mohammad Mehri disclosed the reasons as to why one of their close associates, identified as Mehdi Ayati, committed suicide in prison following the revelation made by the Moslem students who claimed that the Forqan group had links with the U.S. Embassy in Tehran.

Mehri said that it is bare fact that the Forqan group had no contact with any foreign organization whatsoever.

He said that the first reason as to the suicide could be that somebody contacted him and tried to create a link between Forqan and some organization. He, naturally, should be worried and committed suicide, he said.

The second reason, he said was that Gudarzi who is the leader of the Forqan group had great respect for him.

He said that Haj Tarkhani gave money to the group because of Gudarzi, but Tarkhani was assassinated on the corders of Gudarzi.

Amrollah Ilahi said, "I do not have any information about the terrorist activities of the group."

He said the answer of this question as to why the group killed one of the country's leaders should be given by group leaders such as Gudarzi.

Another group member Mahmud Kashai said that he was not connected with the assassination of several revolutionary leaders and pointed out that such decisions would have been taken by the Central Committee of which he was not even a member.

Decisions concerning assassinations were taken by the leaders behind closed doors in a meeting room.

The group, however, pleaded for another chance to serve the Islamic Revolution and said they realized they had adopted the wrong way.

They said that they had followed the line of Gudarzi and had believed that "in this they could put Iran on a more revolutionary path."

OIL SITUATION, DEVELOPMENTS REPORTED, DISCUSSED

Guardsmen on Pipeline Explosions

GF121730 Tehran Domestic Television Service in Persian 1810 GMT 11 Mar 80 GF

[Text] Following the recent pipeline explosions in Khuzestan and the arrest of 18 persons who have been accused of these acts of sabotage, one of the Revolution Guards stationed at Khorramshahr will give us more details on these events. He will further prove that the Iraqi Government is interfering in Iran's affairs. [begin recording; name of Revolution Guard not given]

[Question] Could you tell us who is responsible for these acts of sabotage in the oil-rich region of Khuzestan?

[Answer] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. The killings, and acts of sabotage that have been occurring in the oil-rich region of Khuzestan were planned by the Ba'thist regime of Iraq. The plans were made at Al-Basrah security headquarters last March. The Iraqis trained the saboteurs there and sent them back to Iran to begin sabotaging this rich region of Khuzestan. Fortunately, some people who were cooperating with the Corps of Revolution Guards supplied us with information about these elements.

The Revolution Guard brothers stationed in Khuzestan investigated the situation and were able to arrest the saboteurs as they were entering Iran. Documents found at the Iraqi Consulate in Khorramshahr and made available to the Corps of Revolution Guards proved the direct connection between the Iraqi Government and these elements. A man named Barzan Ebrahim commanded these elements in Khuzestan. In a report he submitted to the Iraqi Government, he described their activities and listed their future targets. This report was found in the Iraqi Consulate and was shown to the nation on television a month ago. According to the plans formulated at Al-Basrah security headquarters, these people were supposed to meet other members of the front in Khuzestan to carryout their acts of sabotage in Ahvaz, Khorramshahr and Abadan. Some of these elements were arrested last month by the Revolution Guards. Their confessions were very interesting. They confessed immediately and told us about others because their purpose was an ordinary purpose. [as heard] The weapons and documents found in their possession proved that the Ba'thist regime of Iraq is collaborating with these saboteurs.

[Question] Are these saboteurs Iraqi nationals? Has the investigation of these documents shown what the Iraqi Government is trying to accomplish with these acts of sabotage and why it is sending such elements to Khuzestan Province?

[Answer] The original members of this front are Iraqi nationals named Barzan Ebrahim, Qeys Ebrahim, Husayn Qasvan and Zia Khaqani. The documents show that these individuals are from Al-Basrah and were appointed as the leaders of this front by Al-Basrah security headquarters. They were recruiting poor people and taking them to Al-Basrah to train them how to destroy pipelines and government offices. The Iraqi Government's objective is clear to our nation. The most important things to them are the economy and oil. As you know, Khuzestan is the main basis of our economy. If the United States blockaded us we would have to depend on Khuzestan. If the United States could paralyze Khuzestan and stop the flow of oil it could achieve victory.

The United States is using Iraq to carry out its plan , and Iraq is sending people to destroy the oil pipelines of our poor and oppressed people. It is also apparent to the entire nation that for the past several years Iraq has been making several moves in order to serve U.S. and British imperialism. The goal is to divert the struggle of Arab nations against Zionism. Of course, there are other goals like making the internal situation stable and engaging the army with other problems. They used to say that the Palestinians and the Revolution Guards were attacking their oil-rich regions in the Western part of their country. [as heard] There is another point that is more important and that is the struggle of the Iraqi people against their government. Through the use of this propaganda they want to involve the nation as well.

[Question] What steps are the Revolution Guards taking to prevent further acts of sabotage? Are you going to pursue your investigations in order to keep the government safe?

[Answer] Yes, as you know, the Corps of Revolution Guards is a revolutionary organization and, contrary to rumors, it is not a repressive organization. These rumors are being spread in an attempt to sever connections between the Revolution Guards and the people. [words indistinct] , we have arrested 18 leaders of this front in Khorramshahr and the investigation is still underway. The most important point I want to make to the nation is that they should cooperate with us and keep us informed of what they hear or notice.

The secret of our success rests in the assistance given by the people. The other important thing now is that Iraq is currently using another method. They are giving rice, sugar, tea and money to the tribesmen on the border in order to enter Iran and harm the revolution, particularly at this time when the elections are very near at hand.

[Question] Are the Revolution Guards prepared or have you taken any steps to prevent the entry of such elements by cooperating with border officials?

[Answer] The Revolution Guards stationed at Iran's borders, assisted by border officials are planning to prevent these elements from entering Iran.

[Question] According to the latest figures, how many explosions occurred, how many people were killed and injured and how many were arrested?

[Answer] As of now, 15 explosions have occurred at the pipelines causing much damage. There have also been five explosions at government offices and five explosions in passenger trains and stations, which killed many people. Finally, there have been five explosions in markets and other crowded places as well as some explosions in different parts of Khuzestan. On the whole, 25 persons were killed and more than 13 were injured or crippled. We must realize that the reason some people in the border regions were deceived by the Iraqi regime is that the former Iranian regime was not paying attention to them. It is natural for them to follow orders if the Iraqi regime gives them money, food and weapons. One of them said very frankly that the Iraqi Government gave him 100,000 tomans and weapons to conduct acts of sabotage in Iran. In order to make everything clear to the nation, we will list the names of those individuals who have been arrested: Hoseyn, 'Askari, Abbas Mohammadi, 'Abdul Latif Wa'eli, Ne'mat Mazra'eh, Arman Dost'ali, 'Abdul Karim Boyasar, 'Atefa Qasem a member of the Women's organization, Abdolamil Khanchi [word indistinct] 'Askaripur, Haji Shahab Naqibi, Haji Hoseyn 'Abdol Rasul, Qazi Salemipur, Baqer Khanchi, Haji Mohammad Mazra'eh Asl 'Abdollah Mojdami and Seyyed Hashen Musavimanesh. [speaker fails to give last two names] [end recording]

## Soviet Delegation on Gas Prices

LD122002 Tehran in English to Europe 1930 GMT 12 Mar 80 LD

[Text] A Soviet representative delegation headed by the deputy minister of foreign trade currently in Iran to hold talks on the pricing of natural gas and the mode of its export to the Soviet Union met and conferred with Iran's oil minister, 'Ali Akbar Mo'infar in Tehran this morning. The spokesman for the Iranian Oil Ministry has announced that the talks between Iran and the Soviet Union regarding the change of the prices and the condition of the delivery of the natural gas to the Soviet Union has not reached any conclusion yet. The spokesman has further said: Iran's Oil Ministry has officially informed the Soviet delegate [as heard], whose head is the deputy foreign trade minister of that country, that there will not be any reduction on the prices that Iran has already proposed. The announcement says that if the Soviet Union would not approve the proposed prices the Islamic Republic's government will prefer to use the gas domestically and burn the extra gas and will not to sell it cheaply.

INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENTS REPORTED, DISCUSSED

Soviet Casualties in Afghanistan

JN130914 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0800 GMT 13 Mar 80 JN

[Text] The Afghan Islamic society has stated that the Muslim revolutionaries damaged the electric power station in Jalalabad, immersing the city's airport in total darkness. A statement issued by the society said that on the same day, the Muslim strugglers killed six Soviet soldiers near Jalalabad, seized six machineguns and set a military jeep afire.

More Soviet Losses

JN121100 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 12 Mar 80 JN

[Text] Reports from Herat have mentioned that 4 Soviet tanks were destroyed and 15 Soviet experts killed in clashes between the Mojahedin of the Islamic Afghan organization and Soviet agents in the Tir Pol area, 100 km from Herat. The Mojahedin of the Islamic organization suffered no human or material losses.

Attack on Soviet Consulate

JN121631 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 12 Mar 80 JN

[Text] Hojjat ol-Eslam Sheykh Abdul Karim Sadiqi, spokesman for the Afghan Islamic revolutionary liberation front, has announced that the organization of the Afghan people's Mojahedin, which is a member of the liberation front, hurled a bomb at the Soviet Consulate in West Berlin, destroying the building. This news report, which is now being confirmed, was published a short while ago by world information media.

Iraq's Expulsion of Ambassador

JN110900 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 11 Mar 80 JN

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Who would believe that our ambassador to Iraq is an unwanted man? Who would believe the Iraqi regime's allegations that our ambassador to Iraq used to send fabricated reports to Tehran radio? The regime, which is deeply immersed in problems, neither knows what to say or do, or even whom to accuse. The regime does not know whether to accuse the Iraqi people who are fed up and who are eagerly searching for those who would convey their opinions to our voice, which is the voice of the oppressed. The regime does not know whether to accuse the people who are dispatching reports while lying in wait and burning with anger--people who would travel thousands of kilometers in order to reach another state from which they can dispatch reports by any possible means. Rulers of Baghdad: Those are the sources of our reports. Indeed, it is the Iraqi people themselves who dispatch these reports--people who are indignant about a regime which rules with fire and steel. Indeed, it is difficult for the regime to accept this truth. It is difficult for the regime to suppose that the Iraqi people themselves are doing the impossible to make their voices heard on our radio, which they consider a rostrum for all the oppressed and deprived.

Thus, who is the regime attempting to accuse? It is trying to accuse an exemplary man, one who has sold all his possessions for God and earned the trust of all the Muslim masses, be these in Iran or Iraq. Mahmud Do'a'i was a man of revolution and bitter struggle before being an ambassador.

This is the reason the ruling regime in Baghdad grew apprehensive, since it objects to the presence of one revolutionary man who knows about all its blunders and deviations.

Iraq knows that Hojjat ol-Eslam Do'a'i is a man of Islam and revolution, who acts and behaves in accordance with the dictates of his legitimate responsibilities and carries out these responsibilities as a Muslim living in an Islamic state.

Thus, there arose a contradiction between the presence of our ambassador and the Iraqi Government from the first day of his appointment as the Iranian ambassador to Iraq. Indeed, from the first day of his appointment, the regime began to pose one obstacle after another in order to prevent him from carrying out his responsibilities. From the first day of his appointment, Hojjat ol-Eslam Do'a'i was unwanted by the regime which finds it difficult to deal with a man who acts and believes in accordance with Islamic norms and who wants others to act likewise.

Throughout his stay in Iraq, the course pursued by this man enraged the regime, until this regime trumped up some thing to force this ambassador to leave Iraq. This regime's decision does not exceed other things on its list of decisions, which stem from a deep-rooted malice against Islam and the revolution. Tens of such malicious decisions are issued daily by this regime against the people, since it is afraid and apprehensive in regard to matters concerning the Islamic Revolution. Such decisions range from execution, detainment and torture to false accusations.

Why does the regime fear Do'a'i? Why did the regime treat Do'a'i in such a way, making him an exception to the other ambassadors accredited to Iraq? In short, Do'a'i became an issue for the regime, an issue for which a solution had to be found for the following reasons: first, Do'a'i was the Islamic Revolution's ambassador to a regime which knows not the meaning of the word ambassador. Second, Do'a'i was a religious scholar before being a diplomat. This meant that the regime, which is exerting strenuous efforts and spending millions to tell the Iraqi people that Islam is a faith and has nothing to do with politics, was confronted by a man reversing this picture completely and thwarting all its designs--thus changing the beliefs of the Iraqi people. This was being done by a religious scholar with an ambassadorial post while carrying out well these two responsibilities--just as if they are one.

This (?angered) the ruling regime in Baghdad which revealed its malice during past days when it focused all its information media against a country ruled by men of religion.

Indeed, the turban was ostensibly the issue which prompted the regime to consider Do'a'i persona non grata. The regime said it is the turban; however, we say no it was not the turban, but the regime's fear of mixing Islam with politics, which Hojjat ol-Eslam Do'a'i embodied. Indeed, Do'a'i proved to the Iraqi people that Islam and politics are twins and that there is a great hope of Islam saving the oppressed people from all their problems. The regime has tried and still is trying to eradicate this concept. But can the regime succeed? Will the Iraqi people's views on Islam be changed? And will they lose hope in the Islamic Revolution? Only time will tell.

## More on Iraq Border Incidents

JN121858 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 12 Mar 80 JN

[Text] The PARS NEWS AGENCY has quoted the assistant commander of the gendarmarie force in Kermanshah as saying that an attacking group opened fire last night against the (Balatak-Qal'at Sik) region, resulting in further border losses. The gendarmes and Revolutionary Guards returned the fire. The assistant commander said that the exchange of fire lasted about 8 hours.

The commander added that the report received at the gendarmarie forces command headquarters on the incident points out that the attackers used 81 mm shells for the first time. A part of the (Qal'at Sik) building was damaged because of the shelling. The commander said that this shows that the Ba'thist government in Iraq is preparing for an offensive against the Iranian borders and that the agents of (Sardar Jaf) are involved in these attacks, with the support of the Baghdad regime.

On another level, the Qasr-e Shirin governor said that the border police posts have been reinforced by frontier guards.

## Bani-Sadr on Palestinian Revolution

JN101743 Beirut FALASTIN ATH-THAWRAH in Arabic 3 Mar 80 pp 16, 17 JN

[Interview with Iranian President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr conducted by FALASTIN ATH-THAWRAH correspondent Khalil az-Zayn in Tehran--date not specified]

[Text] [Question] Brother President, how do you assess the existing relations between the Iranian and Palestinian revolution? Do you have now, one year after the triumph of the Iranian Revolution, a definite idea about the kind of support you will give to the Palestinian revolution in the difficult circumstances currently experienced by the revolution in Palestine and Lebanon in facing and attempting to foil the Camp David conspiracy?

[Answer] Our relations with the Palestinian revolution are very good and limitless. As we announced before, the Palestine question is an Iranian issue. We and the Palestinian revolution are in one trench fighting a common enemy. Therefore, our revolution must expand its struggle, especially against Zionism, because there is no escape from confronting Zionism in the Middle East.

As for aid and support, brother Abu 'Ammar and I have dealt with this subject. For our part, we are ready to give all the material support needed. However, Abu 'Ammar told us: "We don't need that now. What we need is moral and political support."

Bani-Sadr continued: Of course, moral and political support is more important than material support. Our support here is limitless. We fully support the Palestinian peoples' struggle and rights to their homeland, Palestine.

We feel that at this stage we must unite all the forces of the Islamic world in one single bloc by maintaining the spirit of the Islamic revolution in order to destroy the bases set up by our enemies on our territories. All the Muslim peoples must be on the first line of defense to protect the Palestinian revolution and to help liberate Palestine.

As for our aid to our Lebanese brothers, this is included in our program.

Asked about the results of brother Abu 'Ammar's visit and talks, President Bani-Sadr said: Our talks with our brother and friend Abu 'Ammar covered several topics: the current situation in Lebanon, the rights of the oppressed Shi'ites in Lebanon and Middle East issues. We had frank and sincere discussions and agreed on a number of practical steps which will become known in the near future.

[Question] Brother President, the Iranian Revolution announced right after its victory that Iran is a frontline state against the imperialist-Zionist enemy. Now, one year after that victory what are your preparations for the liberation of Palestine and the occupied Arab territory?

[Answer] Under the shah, Israel enjoyed many privileges in the cultural, economic and political fields. Today, Israel no longer enjoys those privileges. They are gone for good.

Iranian oil used to be given to Israel at a very cheap price, almost free. We have stopped all trade with Israel. Iran used to be a vast market for Israeli products. The first step we took was to close this market.

Iran was an Israeli base against our Arab and Palestinian brothers. We destroyed that base. That was the second step we took.

Israel was giving and taking arms, training the Iranian Army and supervising the organization of the army, thereby achieving great benefits. We stopped that too for good.

This was on the internal level. On the external level, we have supported and will continue to support the Palestinian revolution with all the means in our power. We have boycotted international firms dealing with Israel. Once we have continued this policy to the end, we will have preceded the Arab states in this field.

The revolution has given political support to the Palestinian revolution. This did not exist under the shah. I declare frankly and clearly that once we have prepared our forces and reorganized our army in a better and stronger manner, we will fight side by side with the Palestinians and the Arabs against Israel, if the latter wages a new aggressive war against them.

[Question] Brother President, how do you view the role of oil in solving Islamic problems, especially the Palestine question?

[Answer] Oil has two roles: an economic and a political one. If oil is to play both roles, the Arab states must be independent. Regarding the economic role, the Arabs should follow our example by controlling the production and exportation of oil and achieving self-sufficiency so that there will be no need to export crude oil. Once we have achieved economic integration and controlled the exploration, pumping, exportation and marketing of oil, we will have eliminated the reason for the existence of Israel.

As for the political role of oil, this calls for an oil embargo on those states which want to tamper with our independence and which support Israel, which is the source of constant danger to us.

We have stopped exporting oil to several countries, including South Africa, Israel and the Philippines. Whoever plots against us will be deprived of oil. To be honest the others must simply follow our example.

[Question] Brother President, how do you assess your relations with the Arab states?

[Answer] Our relations are good with some Arab regimes. As for the others, we believe that they are working against the interests of their peoples. They are tools in the hands of the United States. Therefore, we have not established any relations with them.

Abdol-Aziz Departure for India

GF121830 Tehran Domestic Television Service in Persian 1730 GMT 11 Mar 80 GF

[Text] His Excellency Mowlavi 'Abdol-'Aziz, leader of our Sunni brothers in Baluchestan va Sistan, who was on his way to India to participate in an Islamic conference, answered our correspondent's questions at the airport regarding his trip as well as the upcoming election for the Islamic Parliament: [begin recording]

[TV correspondent] We are now at Mehrabad airport and have just learned that His Excellency Mowlavi 'Abdol-'Aziz is on his way to India.

[Question] Your Excellency 'Abdol-'Aziz, can you tell us why you are going to India?

[Answer] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. As you well know, for several months now, I have had some trouble with my heart and was hospitalized at Tehran cardiac hospital. I have recovered somewhat, after the treatment, but my discomfort has not completely disappeared. Therefore, I want to go to New Delhi for a checkup and examination, and for a change of climate as well as some rest. On the other hand, I have received an invitation from the Islamic society in India, which will be holding a conference there soon. This way I can attend the conference and meeting. I want to participate in that conference and get some rest as well.

[Question] Your Excellency 'Abdol-'Aziz, as you know we are on the threshold of our Parliamentary election. Do you have any message on this matter to our compatriots in Baluchestan va Sistan?

[Answer] Yes. I would like to advise all of my friends wherever they may be, whether in Baluchestan, Sistan or any place else, that they should be very alert and careful during the election and should vote for those who are qualified for the job. As our religion has always advised us: "Entrust your worthy items to trustworthy persons." I especially advise the citizens of Baluchestan va Sistan to vote for those candidates whom they feel would serve them and the people and who are humanitarians and are on the side of the people. It would be against the teachings of Islam if any kind of racism, regionalism or tribalism should be taken into consideration. It would be against our religion and they would not benefit from it. So, try to give to the righteous and elect those who are worthy of this position.

[TV correspondent] Yes. [end recording]

NATIONAL VOICE OF IRAN DISCUSSES ELECTIONS, SOLIDARITY

Commentary on Majles Election

TA051450 [Editorial Report TA] The clandestine National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran at 1730 GMT on 4 March broadcast a commentary, entitled "The Iranian Nation on the Threshold of the Elections," which said: The Iranian nation is preparing itself with revolutionary vigilance to participate in the elections. Different parties, groups and organizations have put forth their opinions regarding various problems of the nation for the public to judge. It is certainly not surprising during all the turmoil related to the elections that some feudal landowners, SAVAKist agents of the West--in order to throw sand in the eyes of the people--present themselves as supporters of the people and their liberty or even against imperialism. Fortunately the Iranian nation is very well acquainted with these false supporters of the toilers. The Iranian nation is very well aware that these very elements during the former regime plundered millions and millions. The people want only the true followers of the imam's path to find their way into the Majles.

The majority of the Iranian population consists of toilers--workers and farmers who were the real builders of the revolution and are now the principle support of the Iranian Republican regime. These toilers have various just expectations from the first Parliament of the Islamic Republic. The real representative of the toilers of the Iranian nation can only be a person who during the former regime had defended the people's interests against British and American hegemonism and during the revolutionary days took steps to defend the exploited.

There were those who in the past expressed their opposition to the former shah's regime for liberal reasons and demanded a constitution without a king. Only a few months after the revolution these gentlemen proved their incompatibility with the imam's path. But the great leader of the Iranian nation is gradually pushing these opportunists aside.

These elements do not abandon their interests so easily and now enter the arena under different colors. Their true features must be uncovered and their illegally seized Parliament seats defended. Among these usurpers are Maoists and extreme left wingers who damage revolutionary gains from another angle. They have a hand in every act of fratricide and subversion or turmoil.

"Capitalists and feudals who support the West carry out their antirevolutionary as well as anti-imam plans with the help of these gentlemen whose only goal is to disunite the true followers of the imam in order to be able to fish in troubled waters."

All true followers of the imam's path are faced with the historical duty of supporting the toiler's interests and of persistently struggling against imperialism on top of all demonic American imperialism.

Women's Solidarity; Unity Front

GF081805 [Editorial Report GF] The clandestine National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran at 1730 GMT on 8 March broadcast two commentaries.

The first, entitled "On the Occasion of International Day of Women's Solidarity," said: Iran's Islamic Revolution has given Iranian women a chance to play their role in our society. According to our constitution everyone must have the opportunity to enjoy his rights. Women in our country have proved they can play an effective role. Since the revolution's success, they have contributed to our country's prosperity and progress. During Mohammad Reza's regime they were deprived of their rights. They carried the heaviest burden of our society, especially in the farms and villages where women were treated like objects rather than human beings. Now that our nation is approaching the first election, all women will be able to play their role, and they will never again be dormant and dominated by reactionary forces. For the second time, the women of our country are celebrating women's day on 8 March.

The second, entitled "Formation of a People's United Front a Necessity," said: Imam Khomeyni has called the election of our representatives the last step on the road of our revolution. All conditions must be provided and secured for a free election. Our enemies have tried every possible way to hinder the progress of our revolution. And now they are not sitting idle. They are trying every way possible to block the election of decent qualified persons. Upon his release from the hospital, the imam warned the nation to be alert against all probable plots and asked them to unite in words and deeds for the future victory of our nation. This unity of words and deeds is now more than ever a necessity. As the imam put it: It is the only way toward final and total victory.

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